

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-referenced application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 and 17-24 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-10 and 17-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The rejection is based upon the Examiner's assertion that the term "exit ports" in Claims 1, 10, and 17 is not clear. Applicant submits that the instant specification makes the term "exit ports" clear. For example, the second paragraph on page 13 of the specification includes the following statement: "[a]t the second surface 101b of the interposer 101, the paths 107 form exit ports 107b. As FIG. 1 shows for Ball-Grid Array devices, there may be solder balls 108 attached to these exit ports 107b. For Land-Grid Array devices, these solder balls would not be necessary." Similarly, the specification at line 15 on page 16 includes the following: "forming a plurality of electrically conductive paths 211 through the interposer. These paths 211 are contacting the conductive lines at the first interposer surface (211a) and form exit ports on the second interposer surface (211b)." From these descriptions, it is clear that "exit ports" are the termination of the conductive paths 107 and 211 at the second surface of the interposer. These exit ports are clearly labeled in the figures as 107b and 211b. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5-10, 17, 18 and 20-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inaba (Japan Patent Publication No. JP02001217388A) in view of Gillette, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,831,832). The instant application was filed on 11/16/2001 and claims priority from provisional application 60/249,385, filed 11/16/2000. The Inaba patent application was

published in Japan on 08/10/2001. Therefore, the Inaba patent is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102. Gillette, cited for its teaching of encapsulant, does not cure the deficiencies resulting from the unavailability of Inaba. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 3 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Inaba in view of Gillette and Akram (U.S. Patent No. 5,898,224). The instant application was filed on 11/16/2001 and claims priority from provisional application 60/249,385, filed 11/16/2000. The Inaba patent application was published in Japan on 08/10/2001. Therefore, the Inaba patent is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102. Gillette, cited for its teaching of encapsulant, and Akram, cited for its teaching of non-conductive polymer underfilling, do not cure the deficiencies resulting from the unavailability of Inaba. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of Claims 1-10 and 17-24. If the Examiner has any questions or other correspondence regarding this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's attorney at the below listed telephone number and address.

Texas Instruments Incorporated
P.O. Box 655474, M/S 3999
Dallas, TX 75265
Phone: 972 917-5653
Fax: 972 917-4418

Respectfully submitted,



Michael K. Skrehot
Reg. No. 36,682